

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Edward Buttrey, on January 10, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Edward Buttrey, Chair (R)
Sen. Dee Brown, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Pat Connell (R)
Sen. Tom Facey (D)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Frank Smith (D)
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Nadine Spencer, Committee Secretary
Jameson Walker, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 44, 1/2/2017; SB 77, 1/4/2017

Executive Action: SB 58 - Tabled; SB 77 - Do Pass As Amended; voted to create a Committee Joint Resolution to write a letter to Montana's Congressional delegation asking them to clarify that air ambulance services are not part of the Airline Deregulation Act of 1977.

HEARING ON SB 44

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:31 Sen. Gordon Vance (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on SB 44, Provide process to hold patients harmless from balance billing by air ambulance.

00:01:48 Sen. Fitzpatrick entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:41 Jesse Laslovich, representing himself

00:25:26 Benjamin Power, Dillon

00:28:53 Amy Thomson

00:32:31 Megan Duncan

00:37:27 David Tuss

00:40:49 Sonia Moscolic-Andrews

00:52:26 Elaine Eidum

01:01:17 Kevin Lundstrom

01:07:33 Bill Bryant, Montana Air Ambulance Coalition (MAAC)

01:10:21 Bob Gilbert, Montana Aviation Trades Association (MATA)

01:13:33 Rep. Ryan Lynch, HD 76

Opponents' Testimony:

01:16:12 Bill Lombardi, vice president, Government Relations, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT)

01:21:46 Jennifer Hensley, representing Pacific Source Health Plans

01:29:30 Marilyn Bartlett, administrator, Health Care and Benefits Division, Department of Administration

EXHIBIT(bus07a01)

01:41:30 Bruce Spencer, attorney, representing America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)

EXHIBIT(bus07a02)

01:50:01 Sheryl Wood, associate director, Montana Association of Counties

01:55:53 Brian Thompson, representing Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority and Montana Contractors Association

01:56:28 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Informational Testimony:

01:58:33 Nancy Butler, State Auditor's Office

01:58:46 Bill Warden, representing St. Peter's Hospital and Bozeman Health

01:59:07 Bob Olsen, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:59:43 Sen. Facey

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02:00:10 Rep. Lynch
02:00:23 Sen. Facey
02:00:31 Rep. Lynch
02:01:18 Sen. Facey
02:01:27 Mr. Bryant, MACC
02:02:03 Sen. Facey
02:02:34 Mr. Gilbert, MATA
02:02:45 Sen. Facey
02:03:13 Mr. Gilbert
02:03:27 Sen. Facey
02:04:59 Mr. Lombardi, BCBSMT
02:05:18 Sen. Facey
02:06:06 Mr. Lombardi
02:07:27 Sen. Facey
02:08:27 Mr. Olsen, MHA
02:12:22 Sen. Facey
02:12:39 Sen. Brown
02:13:28 Mr. Olsen
02:14:44 Sen. Connell
02:15:24 Mr. Olsen
02:15:38 Sen. Connell
02:16:21 Mr. Olsen
02:17:48 Sen. Connell
02:18:31 Mr. Lombardi
02:19:15 Chair Buttrey
02:19:34 Mr. Olsen
02:19:46 Chair Buttrey
02:20:13 Mr. Laslovich, self
02:21:20 Sen. Facey
02:22:40 Mr. Spencer, AHIP
02:24:20 Sen. Fitzpatrick
02:24:46 Mr. Spencer
02:25:18 Sen. Fitzpatrick
02:25:39 Mr. Laslovich
02:26:22 Sen. Fitzpatrick
02:26:33 Mr. Laslovich redirect
02:26:52 Nick Mazanec, attorney, State Auditor's Office
02:28:04 Sen. Fitzpatrick
02:28:23 Mr. Laslovich
02:28:33 Chair Buttrey
02:29:04 Mr. Bryant
02:30:15 Chair Buttrey
02:30:26 Mr. Bryant
02:31:00 Chair Buttrey

Closing by Sponsor:

02:31:12 Sen. Vance

HEARING ON SB 77

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:36:39 Sen. Nels Swandal (R), SD 30, opened the hearing on SB 77, Revise title insurance requirements in tax deed laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:38:26 William C. Gowen, Montana Land Title Association (MLTA)

02:38:58 Ronda Wiggers, Montana County Treasurers Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:39:47 Sen. Facey

02:40:08 Mr. Gowen, MLTA

02:40:52 Sen. Facey

02:41:03 Mr. Gowen

Closing by Sponsor:

02:41:32 Sen. Swandal

02:41:55 Recess

02:56:24 Reconvene

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 58

02:56:32 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SB 58 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

02:56:52 Mr. Walker

02:57:04 **Motion:** Sen. Facey moved that **SB 58 BE AMENDED.**

[**EXHIBIT**](#)(bus07a03)

Discussion:

02:57:20 Sen. Facey

02:57:50 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

02:58:07 **Motion:** Sen. Facey moved that **SB 58 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

02:58:16 Sen. Brown

02:59:03 **Vote:** Motion failed 4-6 by roll call vote with Sen. Brown, Sen. Facey, Sen. F. Smith and Sen. Vuckovich voting aye.

02:59:47 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SB 58 BE TABLED**. Motion carried 9-1 by voice vote with Sen. Facey voting no.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 77

03:00:08 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SB 77 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Committee Discussion:

03:00:42 **Motion:** Sen. Facey moved to create a Committee Joint Resolution to write a letter to Montana's Congressional delegation asking them to clarify that air ambulance services are not part of the Airline Deregulation Act of 1977.

Discussion:

03:01:54 Chair Buttrey
03:02:08 Sen. Brown

03:02:49 **Vote:** The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

03:02:56 Chair Buttrey
03:03:04 Sen. Facey
03:03:36 Chair Buttrey

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:04 AM

Nadine Spencer, Secretary

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Additional Documents

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus07aad.pdf](#))